



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**John Hoeven**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH**  
MAY 2008

**WHEREAS**, annually, an estimated 28,300 residential building electrical fires cause 360 deaths and 1,000 injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, property damage from home fires caused by electrical distribution totals nearly \$995 million direct loss annually; and

**WHEREAS**, fifteen percent of residential electrical fires start in bedrooms and twenty-two percent of residential electrical fires occur during the months of December and January; and


**WHEREAS**, nearly half of the residential building electrical fires where equipment was involved were caused by the building's wirings; and

**WHEREAS**, following basic electrical safety precautions can help prevent injury or death, and minimize property damage and loss; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakotans are encouraged to check their homes and workplaces for possible electrical hazards to help protect lives and property, test their smoke detectors and ground fault circuit interrupters monthly, and also to recognize the significance of an Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter (AFCI) in tripping the breaker to protect lives and structures from a fire caused by electrical arcs; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota Electrical Contractors are working with the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to promote and educate the public about the importance of respecting electricity and practicing electrical safety in the home, school and workplace to reduce the number of injuries and deaths resulting from electrical hazards.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 2008, **ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

  
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John Hoeven  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
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Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State